

# DEMAND THAT HELEN CLARK, WINSTON PETERS, PETER DUNNE AND THE GREENS OBEY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

## TELL THE GOVERNMENT AND THEIR SUPPORT PARTIES THAT YOU'RE ANGRY. YOU DEMAND FAIR ELECTIONS.

You refuse to be gagged one year in three by the most repressive election law in any democracy.

The Electoral Finance Bill is so bad that even the Labour-appointed Chief Human Rights Commissioner, former unionist Rosslyn Noonan, described the original bill as having "a chilling effect on the right to freedom of expression".

Tell the Prime Minister you're angry with her for trying to fool you that the redrafted bill has allayed all her concerns.

Helen Clark brazenly said on Newstalk ZB on 19 November that "I think you will find that every issue that the Human Rights Commission raised has been addressed".

### Utter nonsense.

It's true that the Human Rights Commission agrees with the broad aims of the bill – to promote greater transparency. So do I and many others.

But your government continues to defy the Commission on three vital points.

**Point one:** The Human Rights Commission called for the bill to be withdrawn. They foresaw that it was so badly flawed it would need too many changes.

Your government's response? Never mind human rights, never mind that the law is unworkable, ram the bill through.

**Point two:** The Chief Commissioner said in her oral submission to the select committee

on 18 October that "it is essential that any changes be subject to the widest possible public scrutiny".

Your government's response? To subject the changes to the *narrowest* possible public scrutiny by refusing the Commissioner's call for another round of public submissions.

**Point three:** The big one. The restriction that muzzles the government's critics for longer than in any similar democracy...

On 18 October, the Human Rights Commission said that it was "essential ... the present regulatory period [for election advertising] of 3 months is retained and not extended to a potential 11 months".

Your government's response? To ignore their own Human Rights Commission. Go with 11 months.

This, Kiwis, is your Prime Minister's idea of addressing every issue.

When 2000 citizens marched in Auckland on 17 November, she dismissed us as "not indicative of a groundswell".

So I took a risk. I organised another march in Auckland last Saturday. This time over 5000 Kiwis of all political stripes turned up.

Now I've got her attention. I know this because she's trying to vilify me for spending too much of my own money. She ignores that I'm only doing it to try to get her to listen to her own Human Rights Commission.

In trying to justify the Electoral Finance Bill to Paul Holmes on Newstalk ZB this Monday, Helen Clark said darkly that "money entered New Zealand politics last election in a way not seen before".

To that I say again, Prime Minister, listen to your own Human Rights Commission, and do not use the Brethren as a smokescreen.

## Who am I?



I'm John Boscawen. I'm just an ordinary Kiwi who loves his country. I'm a member of ACT and last held a position over 18 months ago..

I've never done anything like this in my life before. But when I see our democracy under attack I feel I've got to make a stand.

There's no way I should have to spend my money defending the Chief Human Rights

Commissioner against the government that appointed her.

But I'm lucky I can still try to hold Helen Clark and co. to account. Why? Because...

*...in just 27 days' time, this campaign will be illegal.*

I've already spent over the proposed third party limit of \$120,000 highlighting the Human Rights Commission's views on this bill – that's less than a sixth of the \$800,00 of your money that Helen Clark spent on her 2005 pledge card.

It's also about a quarter of the \$500,000 that expatriate Owen Glenn gave to Labour before the 2005 election.

Don't get me wrong: I support Owen Glenn's right to donate that money. It's called democracy. Our parents and grandparents fought for it. Over 7000 of us recently marched for it.

The least you can do is fire off a few emails supporting it.

**Unless you express your outrage to the Labour, NZ First, UnitedFuture and Green parties right now, they will pass the Electoral Finance Bill by the end of this week or early next. And New Zealand will be changed forever.**

**Please don't let that happen.**

## March to your computer now!

Email the leaders of the parties who are colluding to curb your free speech. Tell them to honour the Human Rights Commissioner's recommendations *in full*.

**Helen Clark:**

[pm@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:pm@ministers.govt.nz)

**Winston Peters:**

[wpeters@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:wpeters@ministers.govt.nz)

**Peter Dunne:**

[pdunne@ministers.govt.nz](mailto:pdunne@ministers.govt.nz)

**Jeanette Fitzsimons:**

[jeanette.fitzsimons@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:jeanette.fitzsimons@parliament.govt.nz)

Or write to them all at: *Freepost, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.*

**Labour supporters:** Don't put your great party's reputation for fairness at risk. Tell Helen Clark it's time to do the right thing.

**Green supporters:** Do you want to be accused of hypocrisy for speaking out against human rights abuses in far-off lands, while having the Human Rights Commissioner speaking out against you at home? Think how that will damage your proud brand.

**NZ First supporters:** Do you want to trample on the proud values of our senior citizens who marched off to war in defence of free speech? If not, let Winston Peters know it's not on.

**UnitedFuture supporters:** See all of the above.

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